

**Governor Baldacci's
Task Force Promoting Safer Chemicals in Consumer Products and
Services**

Friday September 29, 2006 2-4 PM
Conference Room 4
Department of Environmental Protection
312 Canco Road
Portland, Maine
Handout AGENDA

2:00- 2:05 Welcome
Introductions

2:05-3:05 Presentation and Q&A
Ken Geiser *Co-Director Lowell Center for Sustainable Production, University of
Massachusetts* Safer Chemicals Efforts in the Public Sector

3:05-3:45 Discussion of Ken Geiser presentation
A. Massachusetts efforts-follow-up
B. Strong state effort
C. Financial implications
D. Modify for Maine

3:45-4:00 Next meetings and Interim Report

Ken Geiser – Brief Bio

Co-Director of the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production U Mass-Lowell, Chair of the Toxics Use reduction Institute's Advisory Board and is Associate Professor Department of Work Environment at UMass Lowell. The University's Lowell Center for Sustainable Production promotes environmentally sound and occupationally safe forms of workplace organization.

- Served on the core Advisory Group for the United Nations Environment Program's Cleaner Production Programme.
- Serves on the USEPA Toxics Data Reporting Committee of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology and their Common Sense Initiative for Regulatory Reinvention.
- He is the author of Materials Matter: Toward a Sustainable Materials Policy that sketches the history of materials use and the pathway for increased reliance on nontoxic environmentally sustainable materials.

Question from 9.11.06 meeting Are stove gaskets made of asbestos? Answer from DEP Air Quality staff: Modern stove gaskets are made of fiberglass but old gaskets up to the 1970's may have been asbestos.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/5080.html> <http://www.lungusa.org/site/pp.asp?c=dvLUK9O0E&b=35368>

TASK FORCE SAFER CHEMICALS future meeting schedule as of 9.29.06				
Date Time	Location	Agenda highlights	Status	Notes
Fri Oct 13 9-11 AM	Room 105 Cross Office Building (COB) Augusta	-Tom's of Maine -Interface Fabrics -DECD/E2 -Discussion	Confirmed Confirmed In the works	Would you prefer 9:30 - 11:30?
Mon Oct 23 1-3 PM	Room 105 Cross Building, Augusta	-Mark Catlin SEIU/Occupational Health. -Discussion	Confirmed	
Mon Nov 13 PM	Room 105 COB	Discussion/Drafting Interim Report. Date change for interim report?	Discuss at 9.29.06 meeting	Dr. Tom Green/ Kathy M? John Warner/ Mike B? Michael Wilson/ Mike B
Mon Nov 27 PM	Room 105 COB	Discussion/Drafting Interim Report. Date change for interim report?	Discuss at 9.29.06 meeting	
Dec				
Dec				

Duties of the Task Force Promoting Safer Chemicals in Consumer Products and Services

The purpose of the Task Force is to identify and promote the use and development of safer alternatives to hazardous chemicals in consumer goods and services made, provided or sold in Maine so as to benefit public health, the environment and the economy for all Maine people. The specific duties of the Task Force are to:

- Survey relevant knowledge and activities related to promoting safer alternatives to priority chemicals in the areas of environmental public health policy development, green chemistry research and development, and economic incentives;
- Develop recommendations for a more comprehensive chemicals policy that requires safer substitutes to priority chemicals in consumer products and creates incentives to develop safer alternatives, on a state and regional basis;
- Develop recommendations on expanded consumer education, retailer education and training, supply chain information and public right-to-know in order to promote markets for safer alternatives;
- Develop recommendations for submission to the Maine Science and Technology Advisory Council on expanded research and development of safer alternatives to priority chemicals in consumer products, including investment in green chemistry research and development and the possibility of developing bio-based plastics from Maine-based agricultural and forest products.

For purposes of this Executive Order, the term "priority chemicals" includes substances and their breakdown products including PBTs, very persistent and very bioaccumulative (vPvB) chemicals, carcinogens, mutagens or reproductive toxins (CMRs), neurotoxins, and endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) that have been demonstrated by biomonitoring studies to be present in human tissues and fluids, that are produced in high volumes or used in ways that may result in high exposures, or that pose generally equivalent concerns as determined by the state's qualified experts or by a body considered to be authoritative by such experts. Priority chemicals include, but are not limited to, toxic substances listed by the DEP in its programs that address toxic releases, air toxics and water toxics. For purposes of this Executive Order, "consumer products" means items or materials sold or distributed for residential or commercial use, but excludes those intended exclusively for industrial use.

Reports

The Task Force shall submit an interim report to the Governor by November 30, 2006 and a final report by October 1, 2007. Each of these reports shall include recommendations, including proposed legislation, for safer chemicals policy development and consumer education and related information as required under Duties b.ii and b.iii in this section. The Task Force shall also submit interim recommendations by November 30, 2006 and final recommendations by October 1, 2007 to the Maine Science and Technology Advisory Council on expanded research and development opportunities as required under Duties b.iv in this section. Upon submission of the final report and the final recommendations, the Task Force shall dissolve.